

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Patent Application of:  
Koichiro Aoyagi et al.**

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: NOVEL MULTI-BRANCHED POLYMER

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

### AFFIRMATION OF PRIORITY CLAIM

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 based on the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country on the date indicated:

Country	Application No.	Date
Japan	2003-394867	November 26, 2003

A certified copy of the aforesaid Japanese Patent Application was received by the International Bureau on January 20, 2005 during the pendency of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/017897. A copy of Form PCT/IB/304 is enclosed.

Dated: May 23, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

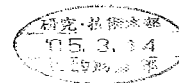
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From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

**PCT**NOTIFICATION CONCERNING  
SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL  
OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

To:

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JAPON

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 03 March 2005 (03.03.2005)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference CASE706	<b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>
International application No. PCT/JP04/017897	International filing date (day/month/year) 25 November 2004 (25.11.2004)
International publication date (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year) 26 November 2003 (26.11.2003)
Applicant NIPPON SODA CO., LTD. et al	

- By means of this Form, which replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents, the applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to all earlier application(s) whose priority is claimed. Unless otherwise indicated by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column or by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
- (If applicable)* The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which, on the date of mailing of this Form, had not yet been received by the International Bureau under Rule 17.1(a) or (b). Where, under Rule 17.1(a), the priority document must be submitted by the applicant to the receiving Office or the International Bureau, but the applicant fails to submit the priority document within the applicable time limit under that Rule, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.
- (If applicable)* An asterisk (\*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b) (the priority document was received after the time limit prescribed in Rule 17.1(a) or the request to prepare and transmit the priority document was submitted to the receiving Office after the applicable time limit under Rule 17.1(b)). Even though the priority document was not furnished in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b), the International Bureau will nevertheless transmit a copy of the document to the designated Offices, for their consideration. In case such a copy is not accepted by the designated Office as the priority document, Rule 17.1(c) provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

Priority date	Priority application No.	Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office	Date of receipt of priority document
26 November 2003 (26.11.2003)	2003-394867	JP	20 January 2005 (20.01.2005)

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Form PCT/IB/304 (January 2004)